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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria/USFR/Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR.

6 October 1948

SUBJECT Austrian Communists on Temporary
Duty in Soviet Zone of Germany

NO. OF PAGES

1

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DATE OF INFO

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letter of 18 October 1973 from
Director of Central Intelligence to
Archivist of the United States
Next Review Date: [REDACTED]

NUMBER OF ENCL.

(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.6 September 1948

1. Former Communist Vienna police chief Heinrich Duermayer visited Walter Kakuik, general director of the Austrian National Bank. Kakuik is an old concentration camp friend of Duermayer. The latter requested a sum in Czechoslovak crowns and German marks for the use of twenty of Duermayer's comrades who were to leave with him for Berlin to take part in Communist demonstrations in that city.

16 September 1948

2. On instructions from the Soviet authorities in Austria, the Austrian Communist Party transferred groups of ardent Communists to the Soviet Zone of Germany; many of these were scheduled for temporary duty in the German police force of the eastern zone. The first group of about 140 activists, each selected solely on the strength of a recommendation by a Communist Central Committee member, were sent to Germany by way of Czechoslovakia. The entire group was from the Vienna Communist Bezirk-Sektion at Alsergrund (Vienna IX). The group left Vienna in small groups and was to be reassembled in Czechoslovakia. The mode of travel of the groups is unknown. All had Soviet travel permits. The second group was expected to leave in late September and was to be comprised of 150 Austrian Communist Party members of the Vienna XXI Bezirk-Sektion. The Communist Central Committee supervised the organization and transport.
Comment: Such large numbers from single Bezirke appear highly improbable.)

7 September 1948

3. Moritz Fels-Margulies, Communist chief of the Black Market Control Section of the Austrian Economic Police, left Vienna for Berlin via Prague on 7 September 1948. His mode of travel is unknown. He had Soviet travel clearance but carried no Austrian travel permit. Before his departure, he told an acquaintance that he would return in about eight days.
Comment: Fels-Margulies was seen in public in Vienna on 18 September 1948.)

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Comment: Since no other explanation appears plausible, it is felt that possibly the Viennese Communists were sent to Berlin for training in the conduct of mass demonstrations.)

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

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